

St. Rode

London Road,

St. Leonards-on-Sea

15th March 1931

Hon. Member,

I beg to submit to you my report on the Health and Sanitary condition of the Rural District of Hastings.

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

The population at Census 1911 was 1795, and the estimated population for 1919 is 1952.

The District is a sparsely populated agricultural area, situated to the North East of Hastings, and includes the Parishes of Fairlight, 3925.551 acres, including 2276.832 acres, Pett, 212.008 acres, and 1.000 of Ore.

The Ratable value is approximately £1000. The soil is fertile, in parts sand, gravel, and sandstone, with patches of clay. There are no chalk formations.

It is a beautiful residential locality, with a salubrious climate, and a low death rate. It has the advantage of being situated in parts of 40 feet above sea level, its high position contributing to its breezy climate. To the South it is on the Coast line, and includes the well known resort of Pett, which would develop rapidly if suitable accommodation could be provided.

The rainfall average compares favourably with that of other districts on the South Coast.

The land is mostly in the hands of a few large landowners, and a number of small holdings are held by the local farmers.

The houses are scattered, and there is no overcrowding or overpopulation.

The amount of your tax relief is extraordinarily small. Hospital accommodation is provided in cases of need by the West Chester Hospital at no charge.

Vital Statistics

Births.
Total Number - 20 Male - 10 Female - 10
Legitimate - 17 Illegitimate - 3

Birth rate 18.33.

Deaths.
Total number - 22 Male - 10 Female - 12
Death Rate 14.33.

Cause of Death

Malignant disease	8
Infantile	1
Diseases of the Circulatory System	4
" " Scurvy	1
" " Alcoholism	1
" " Venereal	2
Old Age	1
Other defined diseases	1
	22

Age at Death

Over 70 years	3
" 60 "	4
" 50 "	3
" 40 "	4
" 30 "	4
" 20 "	1
" 10 "	1
Under 1 year	0
	22

Respiratory Death Rate. -

Bronchitis	1.608
Pneumonia	1.608
Phthisis	0
Zynosis	0

Sanitary Mortality (over 35, (small cases) 8.431

Cancer 3.265

Sanitary Conditions of the District.

Water. The District is well supplied with water, which is soft and of good quality and quantity. Samples are taken occasionally for analysis. The Borough of Hastings Waterworks supply on the intermittent system 8 houses in Fairlight and 25 in Ore.

Drains & Sewers. There is no pollution of rivers and streams. Part of the Royal Military Canal is situated within the District.

Drains & Sewers. The sewerage is chiefly by means of cess-pools, closets, and a few privies. Having regard to the character of the District, these arrangements are sufficient. A part of Ore, contiguous to the Boundary of Hastings, is drained into the Torquay sewers. This is done by spreading on the land, sewage works being at present unnecessary.

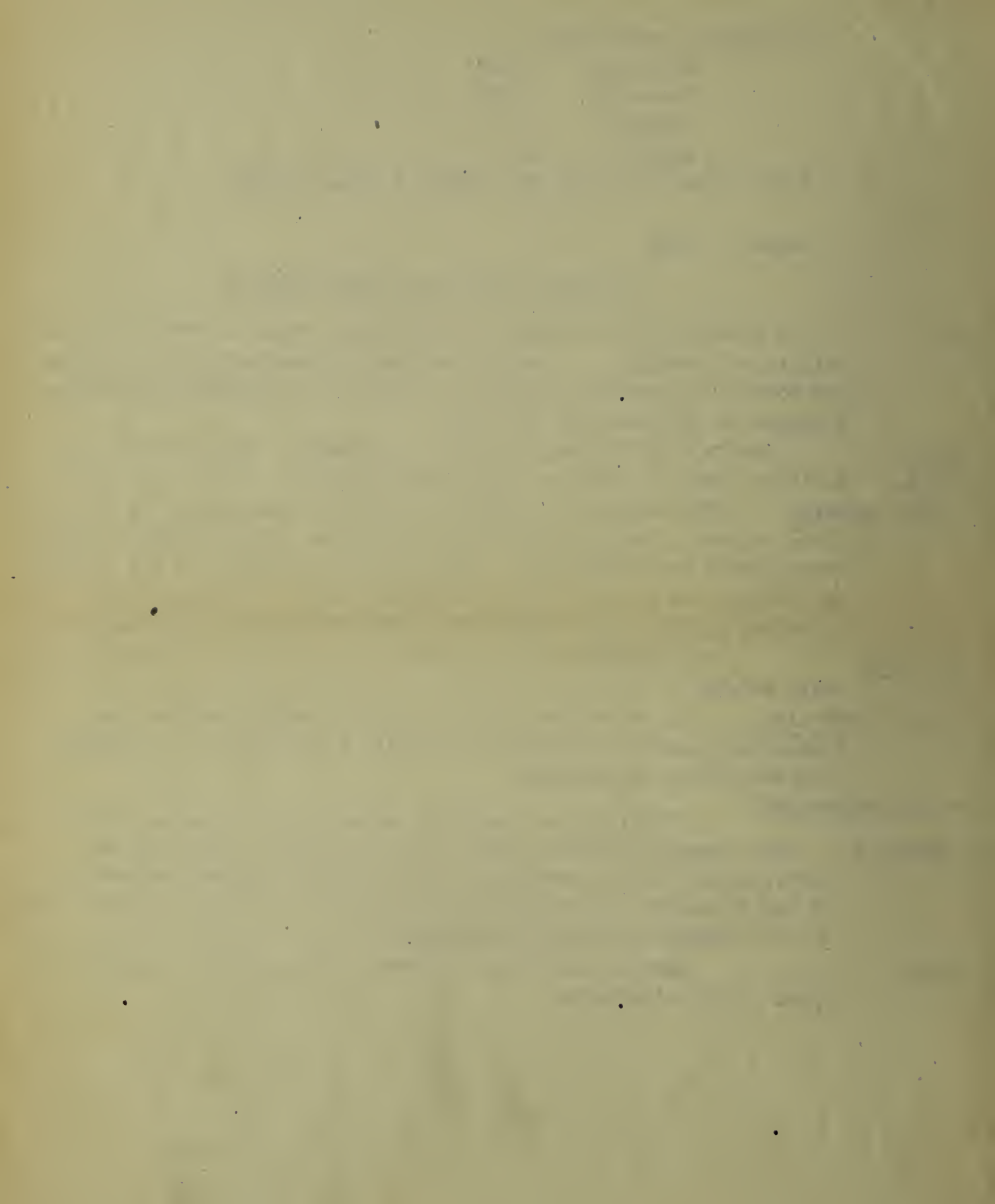
Refuse. Arrangements are in progress for the regular collection of house refuse.

Sanitary Inspection. In connection with the Sanitary Administration, the Inspection Inspector has paid 67 visits of inspection. Defects have been found and remedied.

Travellers controlled. There is one slaughter house in the District, which is

Factories & Workshops. have inspected several times during the year. There are two factories and fifteen workshops, which are all visited frequently by the Inspector, and defects in cleanliness have been remedied. There are no underground sleeping apartments.

Schools. Special attention is given to the sanitary condition and water supply of schools.



Food.

Milk supply. Sufficient milk is produced in the District to supply the inhabitants, and to send a large quantity on to Easton. The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order is strictly enforced. No action has been necessary with regard to tuberculosis milk. All the cowsheds and Dairies have been visited by the Inspector.
Milk and Cream Regulations. This work is undertaken by Officers of the County Council.

Mothers and Children Order. Arrangements have been made for the distribution of milk for necessitous mothers and children.

Meat Trade. The District is well supervised by the County Council Inspectors. Bakehouses are periodically inspected, and fire-washing enforced.

Sale of Food. This is also in the hands of County Council Officers.

Disease Act.

Prevalence and control over infectious diseases.

The following notifications have been received during the year:

Measles	8
German Measles	1
Chicken Pox	11
Scarlet Fever	1
Diphtheria	1
Pulmonary Tubercle	1

Maternity and Child Welfare.

A Lady Inspector acts for the County Council in this matter.

Sanitary Administration.

Staff. The staff consists of one Sanitary Inspector and an assistant Inspector for Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.

The Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1923.

" " " (Prevention) Act, 1920.

Part B of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1920.

Quarantine Accommodation. Provision is made for the immediate isolation of all cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric, etc. in the Borough of Hastings Sanatorium.

In the event of an out-break of small-pox, a hospital has been entered into with the Local Council, whereby any cases occurring in the Rural District will be isolated and treated in the Hastings Small-pox Hospital.

The Council have made no special provision for ambulatory treatment of cases Pulmonary Tuberculosis, but, when necessary, cases from the District are sent to sanatoria elsewhere.

Housing.

Number of houses. Number of houses 192.

The housing accommodation is totally inadequate. There were only 30 houses for the working classes erected during the year and more are now in the course of erection. The Council were successful in formulating a scheme for the erection of 50 houses, which was sent on to the Ministry of Health and approved.

The Houses are to be put up in the proximity of farms where the need is most urgent. Land has been secured, and tenders received, and it is hoped shortly to begin building operations.

Overcrowding.

There is no serious overcrowding.

Standard of Housing.

The general standard is fair. The most usual defects found are defective roofs, outside walls, eaves & gutters,

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insufficient drainage and sanitary arrangements.

In connection with the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909, the Inspector has paid 331 visits. He found 41 houses unfit for habitation, which were remedied without closing orders. No houses were found unfit for habitation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

(sd.) FRANK B. LEWIS.

Medical Officer of Health

for the Rural District of

HASTINGS.

